

The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was held on June 26, 1972 with Chairman, William Press presiding.

After a quorum was declared present, the minutes of the March meeting were circulated and on motion accepted.

A letter was received from Emma Santorella thanking the Town Assembly for its extension of sympathy at Lou Santorallo's death.

Cy Liberman presented the financial report of the Trusees. A copy is on file.

Philip Cohen suggested a way of finding additional revenue for Arden. The Trustees are impressed by the sales price of Arden homes. In due time the increased price will be reflected in the in the county assessment and then in increased land rents. Those living on fixed incomes will no longer be able to live here and there will be increased pressure to divide lots or people will have to leave the community. He suggested that perhaps we should levy a transfer tax on real estate to be added to the asking price. Arden should retain for itself some of the value of the increased property value. Suggestion that we enact an ordinance for a property transfer tax. The increment for the town would have to come from the land.

Arden was granted a tax credit on county taxes for police, recreation, drainage and parks that we have paid since January 1967. As of July 1, 1972 our rate will be .82 per \$100 valuation, but it would have been .99. We are currently paying .85.

The Board of Assessors presented its assessment of the full rental value as \$20.38 per 1,000 sq. ft. for land up to 1/4 acre and \$15.86 per 1,000 s. ft. for land in excess of 1/4 acre. They have retained sliding scale method of assessing surcharge for lots on greens and forests adopted in 1967. The increase in assessment results in a 3 1/2% increase over last year's evaluation or about \$2,400 in land rent income. A motion was made and passed to receive the Assessors report with one nay vote.

The Auditing Committee will present its report at the September meeting.

Reese Davis present the Civic Committee report: The committee has been active since the last Town Assembly, conducting 3 meetings and 2 tours of the village. A special trash collection was held in May. In April we contracted for a twice weekly collection of the four trash containers on the Arden greens.

Road and drainage work:

- 1- Pot holes in roadswere filled earlier this Spring
- 2- Repaving will not be as extensive as originally planned due to a large number of drainage problems requiring correction. The four roads scheduled for repair are Walnut Lane, Wind Lane, Millers Road from Marsh to Hillside, Hillside Road from Millers Road to the woods.
- 3- The drainage problems being corrected are: Hillside Road from Millers Rd. to woods, Millers Road from Hillside Road to Mill Lane, Walnut Lane extenstion to woods, The Highway extenstion to woods, Woodland Lane extension to woods. The total cost of the project will be approximately \$16,000. The report on motion was accepted.

Budget Committee no report.

Community Planning report present by Frank Akutowicz:
 The committee has worked out with the Civic Committee a plan to to beautify the grounds of the pump house on Meadow Lane
 The committee has decided to ask that the state not spray Arden for mosquitoes, but approval for this action will sought under new business. Residents are once again reminded to prune trees and shrubs that are obscuring drivers' sight lines and obstructing the public walk ways. If anyone is planning to make changes in his landscape plantings, the committee is available to give advice. The report on motion received.

Registration Committee report by Carolyn Liberman: Our attempt to have a bill introduced and passed in the Legislature excepting towns of fewer than 750 voters from the law requiring the use of voting machine for all elections was defeated. We have not alternative than to use voting machine for our committee and town officialselection next Spring. It will necessary to get the machines from the board of Elections, pay for transportation and installation of them and for preparing the ballots. This will entail a lot of added expense for the town. As far as we can determine this method cannot be used for proportional representation election of the Board of Assessors and we are continuing to elect them by referendum. There are 409 eligible voters for this meeting. The report on motion accepted.

Safety Committee report by Richard Lynch: Special police patrol in Arden remains in effect and there has been no indication from the Department of Public Safety to change the status of the agreement. Mr. Gladstone has continued liason with the State Police and the committee is satisfied with saturation provided the town. Sgt. Jester, Youth Aid Officer, has met recently with the Cosmos Gild and the officers assigned to the Arden patrol have been invited to meet with this gild. Activity on the Green has increased and the town laws that would apply to the greens have been researched.

The proposed OPERATION IDENTIFICATION has been started and every resident of the Village will be contacted by a mailed notice to participate in the program. The engravers are already in hands of some of the residents who are marking their property. In order to speed up the process addistional engravers are being obtained.

The committee wishes to thank Georgia Curtis and Martin Levy for their service on the committee. The vacancies will filled by election under new business.

The question of speed traps(dips or bumps constructed into the existing road bed) has been discussed with the State Highway Department. It is the opinion of all concerned that dips are preferable to bumps due to wear and tear on vehicles, snow removal and other safety hazards. Dips do present a hazard of ice patches remaining in the dips after snow removal. In order to be effective a considerable number would have to installed. Existing roads must be removed and concrete placed in the dips. The cost factor may represent a substantial budget item.

It was suggested that we study the speed deterrents in Ashbourne Hills because they have a good system.
 It was also suggested that the rules about speeding be strictly enforced and the police are making arrests and warnings. A report before September should be compiled.
 The situation on the greens cannot be controlled by ordinances. The great est advance is made by the vigilance of the residents who report misuse of the greens.

With more enforcements of our regulations and interest of the residents, in time we will be able to control the situation. The report was accepted.

Leon Tanzer reported for the Ardens' Resources Committee that the sub-committee dealing with vandalism and they hope to have a finalized report for action on this subject. The proposal that a "Big Brother" program for the younger children will be carried out by the Cosmos Gild. Recreational activities during the afternoons will be planned in the Arden Club. The new addition to the Arden Club building will enable it to be more responsive to community needs. The report on motion accepted.

Archives Committee report by Cy Liberman. The collection of historical material has been increasing. The Historical Society needs more help sorting the material; therefore, if you are interested by call them.

Hugh Roberts had no report for his committee.

Harvey Road Study Committee presented its final report with the following conclusions:

1. Harvey Road is a hazard for both motor vehicles and pedestrians due to narrow paved driving lanes, eroded road edges, poor drainage and grading, deeply rutted ditches.
2. Significant reduction in road hazards can be made working within the existing 33' right-of-way.
3. Improving areas along Harvey Road where conditions are the most hazardous would require surprisingly little change to existing trees and shrubs.

Recommendations:

Reduce Harvey Road hazards within the 33' right-of-way by:

1. Providing two 12' paved driving lanes and rolled gutters at each side. Total width of improved road with gutters not to exceed 30' versus existing 20' width of paving.
2. Correct poor grading at locations near the cemetery and lots 98, 126, 129.
3. Draining the road through the pond in the Memorial gardens. Excavate the pond to a limited degree to provide for flash floods.

Several factors were cited during the discussion of this report. Concern was expressed that if negotiate with the State Highway Department, then they could take a move to condemn more land than in present right-of-way and a major road would be built.

If road is improved, speeding will get worst and traffic flow greater. Suggestion was made to retain 10' paved driving lanes and replace gutters with stone ballast.

The report did not provide for improved walking lane. A separate pedestrian path should be planned by taking a narrow strip from the leaseholds along the road.

Cy Liberman said that the state does not have the power to condemn any land owned by the Trustees. The State Highway Department seems to have given up idea of major road through Arden.

The proposed road would be like Veale Road.

Frank Akutowocz felt that important factors had not been considered enough. He suggest the scenic value of the road, study of traffic sources, safety (it is safe enough for those driving at speed limit.)

Nuisances on the road are heavy traffic, obstructed visibility, poor ditching. Power lines should be put underground, but instead there is a possibility that heavier poles will have to be installed if new high voltage lines installed.

He suggested that there should be some concrete evidence that the landscape will be saved. Driveways leading into the road will have to be corrected. Environmental affects of widen road should be studied

Concrete action will be submitted under New Business.
The report of the committee accepted with one negative vote.

Reese Davis presented the third reading of Ordinance No. 6-
Excavations in Village Roads. The ordinance was adopted with 48 voting
in favor and no opposition.

Under new Business the Following were nominated to serve on the Safety
Committee completing the terms of Georgia Curtis and Martin Levy:
Thomas Colgan, Michael Dougherty, Barnes King, Charlotte Shedd, Warren
Hoffman. The Registration Committee conducted the election and reported
that Thomas Colgan and Warren Hoffman had been elected.

Cy Liberman restated the concern of the Village of Arden that the proposed
channeling of Namaans Creek north of Marsh Road will be detrimental to
Arden. In spite of the opposition we have stated several times, the project
is in its final planning stage and the work could start soon. The follow-
ing motion was made and passed unanimously:

"The Town Assembly of Arden believes that the proposed channelization of
Naaman's Creek, north of Marsh Road, could result in flooding and damaging
erosion downstream, particularly in the areas of the Broadbent and
Renzetti houses in Arden. This meeting asks the government of New Castle
County what guarantee it can give that downstream damage will not result
from the Naaman's Creek drainage project, and what compensation would
be provided by the County in the event the project is carried out and
damage ensues from the faster run-off of storm water."

Jane Aughey moved that a representative of the Town Assembly of the
Village of Arden meet with the Kingsridge and Lancashire civic groups
to seek joint action including legal action if necessary on the
Naaman's Creek drainage problem. The motion was passed. William
Press, Chairman of the Town Assembly, requested that Frank Akutowicz
represent the Town Assembly.

Aaron Hamburger presented the following motion:

Moved: The Town Assembly directs that negotiations be initiated with
the State Highway Department to reduce the hazards on Harvy Road. Such
negotiations to be conducted within the general framework of the Harvey
Road Study Committee report of June 26, 1972, and specifically should
limit all work to the existing 33 foot right-of-way with a maximum 30
foot width for the improved road including gutters,
Such negotiations to be conducted by a team appointed by the Chairman of the
Town Assembly, consisting of not more than three members, one of whom
shall be a Trustee.
Any plans or agreements for improving Harvey Road resulting from these
negotiations with the State Highway Department shall be submitted
to the Town Assmblly for approval before implementation.

In the discussion that followed there was misgivings about approaching
the State Highway department without a concrete plan.
Some felt we should wait until Silverside Road is finished to see what
happens to the traffic pattern
As we continue to wait, accidents keep piling up and our days of having
anything to say about the road may be lost.
Some felt that the motion was premature and the matter perhaps should
be approached politically. We need an engineer to design a road for us.

A motion was made and passed to table the motion until the September
meeting.

The Cosmos Gild requested an opportunity to speak to the Town Assembly about the situation on the greens. They said that they were aware of the problem and were taking steps to try and solve it. They are planning to:

Attempt to communicate with people on Greens

Call in police

Talked with Richard Lynch, Chairman of Safety Committee

Talked with Sgt. Clark Jester of State Police

They have prepared a leaflet that they propose to distribute to everyone using the greens listing some of the rules that the community would like enforced to control the actions on the greens. They list the following:

1. No littering
2. No blocking of the roadway
3. No loud noises (obscenities, screaming, loud radios or car tape players)
4. No hot-rodding
5. No parking or driving on the Greens.

The leaflet requests cooperation with the community so that the greens are not closed. It also states that any illegal activities on the green may result in the police taking their own actions.

They are going to attempt to enforce rules on leaflet by verbal requests, list of undesirable for Safety Committee, police action and help of Arden adults.

They are also going to help with younger teens.

They request time to employ their own methods.

They feel that a curfew is unfair to everyone and that disturbance goes on in the daytime. Clearing of the greens is also unfair. Clearing of undesirable has not worked because policemen do not distinguish.

The Town Assembly appreciated the desire of the Cosmos Gild to help with this situation.

Michael Curtis made a suggestion that inasmuch as there is a great diversity of opinions among the Assessors, he felt that all assessors should take a 10 weeks course on single tax theory or in lieu of that should read Henry George's book, "Progress and Poverty". No action was taken on the request.

Stanley Shames feels that the Safety Committee should be instructed to get all the information on the installation of speed deterrents by the September Town Assembly. He suggested that other residents can be asked to help the committee compile the information.

Cy Liberman informed the Town Assembly that Mr. Finkelstein is now living in the Kutz Home and that it would be thoughtful if residents would keep him in touch with Arden affairs, because he is still very interested.

A motion was made that the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden, herewith, requests that Arden not be sprayed by the Mosquito Control Section. The motion was carried with 15 ayes and 13 nays.

This motion will be sent to Mr. A. Warren Wheatly of the Mosquito Control Section.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morley
Mary Morley, Secretary